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REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-referenced application is respectively requested in view of the above amendments and these remarks. Claims 1-21 are currently pending.

According to the Office Action, claims 1-2, 5-10, 12-14 and 16-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 5,796,729 to Greaney et al. Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 12 to address this rejection. The present invention is directed to a gateway device and method of using the gateway device. With respect to amended claim 1, the gateway includes a controller that is configured to support and control the gateway's functionality. It includes a wireless local area network (LAN) transceiver, a local loop interface and a wide area network (WAN) transceiver. The wireless LAN transceiver is coupled to the controller and can form an association, including but not limited to a connection, with a wireless communication unit. The local loop interface is also coupled to the controller and supports a connection to a local loop, such as a local wired loop in a residence or the like. Like the other elements, the WAN transceiver is coupled to the controller and supports a wireless connection with a WAN. The WAN transceiver forwards a message corresponding to call routing to the wireless communication unit and when the association of the with the wireless communication unit changes. Moreover, the call routing identifies to send the traffic to the wireless communication unit via the local loop or the WAN.

With respect to amended claim 12, the method is to control call routing via a selected network where the selected network is among at least a local loop or a wireless WAN. The method detects at the gateway that a wireless communication unit is operable on the wireless WAN and establishes a connection between the gateway and the wireless WAN via the wireless WAN. The claimed method sends a message to the wireless WAN concerning the call routing information about whether the wireless communication unit is to be routed to the local loop or the wireless WAN. The message can be forwarded any time it is determined that the call routing is to change between the local loop and the wireless LAN.

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In view of the foregoing, the present invention includes at least two distinct WAN interfaces. The interfaces include a wired local loop circuit interface to a public switch telephone network (PSTN) and a wireless transceiver that integrates with the wireless WAN. Either WAN interface can be used to send or receive voice and data traffic to public networks, i.e. PSTN or wireless WAN. The gateway of the present invention will track the status of a wireless communication unit that is registered or not registered with the gateway. This status is used to negotiate with the respective PSTN and wireless WAN networks to identify whether traffic to the wireless communication unit should be delivered via the wired local loop or the wireless WAN. Support for this is found on page 12, line 8 to page 14, line 7 and Fig. 3. Outbound traffic from the wireless communication unit may use the wired local loop or the wireless WAN or both. A message informing the wireless WAN of the call routing instructions is sent to the WAN and is also sent when the call instructions change. Call instructions may need to change when the status and location of the wireless communication unit changes.

Greaney is directed to an integrated voice/data telecommunication system that includes a device that has a single interface to a PSTN central office referred to as central office trunks or alternately local loop. This interface represent access to a public WAN. All traffic to and from the public network is delivered via this interface. Greaney also provides a connection to a private IP network that may accommodate route IP data traffic, but the capability to interconnect with the Internet is outside the apparatus described by Greaney. The Greaney apparatus is a remote switching element that provides a circuit switch time division multiplexed matrix that supports voice and data traffic. Voice and data traffic can be routed to the PSTN, to an in-building private IP network, to wired, and wireless and data terminals. Greaney teaches the local switching of traffic. Greaney does not teach the ability to alter call routing between these different networks for incoming traffic to the wireless communication unit associated with the apparatus. Greaney also does not teach sending a message to a wireless WAN to say what the call routing is and sending messages when the call routing is changed. Such call routing can be changed when the wireless communication unit changes location or status. Greaney only allows traffic to or from a WAN via a local loop interface.

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In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that Greaney does not disclose the present invention as defined in independent claims 1 and 12. In particular, Greaney does not disclose a message regarding call routing between a local loop and a wireless WAN, sending the message to wireless WAN and sending messages when the call routing changes. It is therefore submitted that claims 1 and 12 are not anticipated by Greaney. As claim 2-3, 5-10 depend upon and include the limitations claim 1 and claims 13-14 and 16-20 depend upon and include the limitations of claim 12, it is submitted that that these dependent claims are also not anticipated by Greaney. Applicants respectfully requested that this rejection under Section 102(e) be withdrawn.

Claims 4 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greaney in view of United States Patent No. 6,856,598 to Stanfield. Claim 4 depends upon amended claim 1 and claim 15 depends upon amended claim 12. As explained above, Greaney does not include the call routing between the local loop and the wireless WAN for a wireless communication unit of the present invention as well as of the call routing messages of the present invention. Moreover, Stanfield also does not disclose, teach or suggest the call routing between the local loop and the wireless WAN for a wireless communication unit of the present invention. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the combination of Greaney and Stanfield does not disclose, teach or otherwise suggest the invention claimed in claims 4 and 15. It is therefore submitted that Greaney and Stanfield do not render claims 4 and 15 obvious. Applicants respectfully request that this rejection under Section 103(a) be withdrawn.

Claims 11 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greaney in view of United States Patent No. 6,650,901 to Schuster et al. Claim 11 depends upon amended claim 1 and claim 21 depends upon amended claim 12. As explained above, Greaney does not include the call routing between the local loop and the wireless WAN for a wireless communication unit of the present invention as well as of the call routing messages of the present invention. Moreover, Schuster also does not disclose, teach or suggest the call routing between the local loop and the wireless WAN for a wireless communication unit of the present invention. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the combination of Greaney and Schuster does not disclose, teach or otherwise suggest the invention claimed in claims 11 and 21. It is therefore submitted

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that Greaney and Schuster do not render claims 11 and 21 obvious. Applicants respectfully request that this rejection under Section 103(a) be withdrawn.

As the Applicants have overcome all substantive rejections and objections given by the Examiner and have complied with all requests properly presented by the Examiner, the Applicants contend that this Amendment, with the above discussion, overcomes the Examiner's objections to and rejections of the pending claims. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully solicit allowance of the application. If the Examiner is of the opinion that any issues regarding the status of the claims remain after this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative to expedite resolution of the matter.

Please charge any fees associated herewith, including extension of time fees, to 50-2117.


Respectfully submitted,
Tell, Daniel F. et al.

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